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Minnesota Labor Market Review

January 1991

Nation

Fewer Jobs Sharply Raises the Unemployment Rate

The U.S. unemployment rate rose in November for the fourth time in five months, reaching a three-year high of 5.9%. It was 5.2% as recently as June. Fewer payroll jobs was the main reason behind this rise. It was the fifth straight month of decline. The 267,000 loss was the largest thus far. The job losses were not only deep, but broad. There were fewer jobs in manufacturing, construction, transportation/utilities, trade, and financial/business services. The only industries adding workers were health services and local government. This belies the popular wisdom that this recession is a white-collar domain. There have been more of these workers on layoff than during the last downturn, but mainly because there are far more of them working than 10 years ago.

Over the past year, the unemployment rates for professionals, managers and service workers have not gone up. Sales workers join the ranks of the blue-collared in experiencing rising unemployment rates throughout 1990.

The unemployment rate, while rising fast, is still relatively low, thanks to a slower-growing labor force. The labor force participation rate is off half a percentage point from the 66.0% reached in June, mainly because many teens have stopped looking for work in a sluggish economy. Moreover, the teen population is much smaller than at the start of the 1980s, when their mass entry into the work world helped foster high unemployment.

State

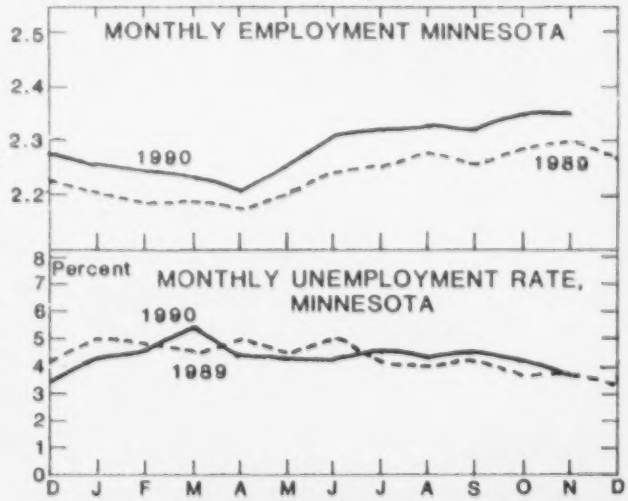
Unemployment Rate Remains Low With More New Jobs In The Service Sector

The Minnesota unemployment rate declined to 3.8% in November. It was the most substantial October to November drop in the last ten years, and places the state unemployment rate a full two percentage points under the comparable U.S. figure. While higher than the 3.6% of November 1989, the failure of Minnesota's rate to rise sharply in concert with the nation's suggests a relatively stronger economy -- at least through last fall.

The number of payroll jobs dropped in November, but the decline was seasonal, as some activities started to wind down for winter. Construction showed a greater than usual drop, but for unknown reasons as November 1990 was not a particularly harsh month weatherwise. Construction has been weak throughout 1990, with 2,400 fewer jobs than a year ago. Likewise, manufacturing declined more than usual in November, and has 3,400 fewer workers than the same month in 1989. Increases in trade and financial service employment more than make up for these losses, but the big growth over the past year has been in services, with 15,000 more jobs and public education, with nearly 7,000 more. Unlike the nation, gains in these two sectors have helped keep the overall unemployment rate from rising. Like the nation, a slower growing labor force has meant less unemployment than a decade ago.

By Don Hiber

Labor Force Estimates



	Minnesota (In Thousands)			United States (In Thousands)		
	Nov 90	Oct 90	Nov 89	Nov 90	Oct 90	Nov 89
Labor Force	2445.7	2461.5	2384.0	124,821	125,020	124,664
Employment	2353.8	2357.2	2293.6	117,611	118,299	118,168
Unemployment	918.9	104.3	90.4	7,211	6,722	6,495
Act. Unemp. Rt.	3.8	4.2	3.8	5.8	5.4	5.2
S.A. Unemp. Rt.	-	-	-	5.9	5.7	5.3

Minnesota Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT 1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS 2/					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Nov. 1989
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	2,159.7	2,165.2	2,132.3	-0.3	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Producing	483.8	494.2	489.7	-2.1	-1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining	8.3	8.6	7.5	-2.8	10.4	630.28	537.38	42.5	38.8	14.83	13.85
Metal Mining	6.4	6.5	5.7	-1.8	13.4	659.02	548.26	42.6	38.1	15.47	14.39
Construction	82.1	88.4	84.5	-7.1	-2.8	662.99	623.20	39.3	38.0	16.87	16.40
Manufacturing	393.4	397.3	397.7	-1.0	-1.1	461.62	451.47	40.6	40.6	11.37	11.12
Durable Goods	227.4	229.7	233.1	-1.0	-2.5	470.02	466.90	40.8	41.1	11.52	11.36
Lumber and Furniture	22.7	23.0	22.1	-1.1	3.0	485.25	499.68	37.5	39.5	12.94	11.65
Stone, Clay and Glass	8.9	9.3	9.3	-4.8	-4.0	504.06	450.54	41.9	39.8	12.03	11.32
Primary Metals	6.3	6.4	6.4	-1.3	-2.3	494.91	440.35	42.3	39.6	11.70	11.12
Fabricated Metals	34.0	34.3	35.2	-1.0	-3.5	482.45	483.30	41.2	41.7	11.71	11.59
Industrial Machinery	77.6	78.5	83.3	-1.1	-6.8	499.73	488.11	41.3	41.4	12.10	11.79
Office and Computing	34.1	34.4	38.0	-0.9	-10.2	537.80	497.35	44.3	41.9	12.14	11.87
Electronic Equipment	28.2	28.4	27.1	-0.7	4.2	400.61	418.77	41.3	42.3	9.70	9.90
Transportation Equipment	11.7	11.8	11.6	-0.5	1.2	452.00	475.54	39.1	40.3	11.56	11.80
Instruments and Related	32.1	32.2	32.4	-0.1	-0.9	452.63	435.96	42.5	42.0	10.65	10.38
Misc. Manufacturing	5.8	5.9	5.7	-1.3	1.8	409.42	420.04	37.7	38.5	10.86	10.91
Nondurable Goods	166.0	167.6	164.5	-0.9	0.9	452.08	432.12	40.4	39.9	11.19	10.83
Food & Beverage Products	46.6	48.0	47.4	-2.8	-1.7	409.86	401.72	41.4	41.3	9.90	9.71
Textiles & Apparel	4.6	4.7	5.1	-2.8	-9.0	304.56	296.43	37.6	37.1	8.10	7.99
Paper Products	33.7	33.8	33.4	-0.1	1.2	593.78	544.48	43.5	41.5	13.65	13.12
Printing and Publishing	53.1	52.8	50.5	0.5	5.2	435.85	422.60	38.3	37.8	11.38	11.18
Chemicals and Petroleum	11.7	11.8	11.6	-0.6	0.8	560.35	516.84	41.6	40.6	13.47	12.73
Rubber, Plastic & Leather	16.3	16.5	16.6	-1.2	-2.0	386.71	378.00	39.3	40.0	9.84	9.45
Service Producing	1,675.9	1,671.0	1,642.6	0.3	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transp., Comm., & Util.	109.7	110.3	108.2	-0.6	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	75.4	75.9	73.3	-0.6	2.9	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trucking & Warehousing	28.4	28.4	28.4	-0.2	-0.3	439.04	427.61	34.9	34.1	12.58	12.54
Communication & Utilities	34.2	34.4	35.0	-0.5	-2.1	614.51	588.28	38.6	38.2	15.92	15.40
Trade	530.8	528.6	526.9	0.4	0.7	240.61	233.28	29.2	28.8	8.24	8.10
Wholesale	130.1	130.5	128.2	-0.4	1.4	415.47	410.70	36.8	37.1	11.29	11.07
Retail	400.7	398.0	398.6	0.7	0.5	189.11	182.42	26.9	26.4	7.03	6.91
Building Materials	18.3	18.6	18.6	-1.4	-1.5	321.20	344.25	36.5	37.5	8.80	9.18
General Merchandise	62.5	60.0	63.8	4.2	-2.0	184.32	177.80	25.6	25.4	7.20	7.00
Food Stores	56.3	55.7	54.1	1.1	4.1	201.96	196.70	27.0	27.9	7.48	7.05
Automotive	43.8	44.0	43.0	-0.4	2.0	297.73	292.22	34.7	34.5	8.58	8.47
Apparel	20.8	20.1	20.7	3.3	0.6	126.14	121.20	21.6	21.3	5.84	5.69
Home Furnishings	16.6	16.5	16.9	0.5	-1.5	283.30	256.10	31.2	30.2	9.08	8.48
Eating and Drinking	130.3	131.8	129.5	-1.1	0.6	119.94	112.27	23.2	21.8	5.17	5.15
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	123.6	123.7	120.9	-0.0	2.3						
Finance	56.1	56.1	55.3	0.1	1.5						
Insurance	46.7	46.6	45.2	0.2	3.3						
Real Estate	20.8	21.0	20.3	-1.0	2.2						
Services	563.2	564.9	547.8	-0.3	2.8						
Personal Services	25.7	25.9	25.5	-0.6	0.9						
Business Services	99.7	99.4	97.6	0.2	2.1						
Repair Services	23.3	23.5	22.7	-0.9	2.5						
Health Services	167.7	167.1	162.9	0.4	2.9						
Nursing Homes	43.8	43.7	43.1	0.4	1.7						
Hospitals	55.9	55.7	55.0	0.3	1.5						
Legal Services	15.9	16.0	15.6	-0.6	2.1						
Private Education	33.7	33.0	33.6	2.3	0.5						
Government	348.6	343.6	338.8	1.5	2.9						
Federal	34.2	34.1	34.7	0.1	-1.5						
State	87.3	86.7	85.0	0.8	2.7						
Education	50.7	49.5	48.8	2.5	3.9						
Local	227.1	222.8	219.1	1.9	3.6						
Education	123.6	120.1	118.7	2.9	4.1						

Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category.

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Minneapolis–St. Paul MSA

Unemployment Rate Drops Sharply

The unemployment rate in the Minneapolis - St. Paul metropolitan area dropped sharply to 3.3% in November. The 0.8 of a percentage point decrease from October was greater than the usual decrease of 0.2 of a point. The number of unemployed workers also decreased sharply. Nevertheless, many of the jobless did not find work and dropped out of the labor force. While the drop in the unemployment rate appears to be encouraging, it is the result of a labor market that is tightening to the point of discouraging potential workers.

The monthly survey of establishments showed further evidence of struggling labor market conditions. After adjusting for seasonal factors, there was a substantial drop in the number of nonfarm jobs. Despite talk that this is a "white-collar" recession, construction and manufacturing workers are bearing the brunt of the layoffs. There were 2.8% fewer construction jobs in the Twin Cities than a year ago, while there were 1.7% fewer manufacturing jobs. Still, this is better than nationwide where construction and manufacturing job levels fell 4.2% and 2.9% respectively over the year.

Retailers did not expand their holiday payrolls as rapidly as in past years. In fact, in November, next to construction and manufacturing, the retail sector was weakest in terms of over-the-year job growth, increasing by only 0.3%. Several retail groups, hardware and department stores, have fewer jobs than a year ago. Locally, job growth has held up better than the national average in the financial services industry (1.8% vs 0.9%) and government (3.8% vs 2.5%). Still, the service sector grows somewhat slower locally than nationally (2.6% vs 3.6%).

By Bruce Steuernagel

LABOR FORCE DATA

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
Mpls-St. Paul	1,404,549	1,400,410	1,382,860	47,483	59,661	44,596	3.3	4.1	3.1
REGION 11	1,318,767	1,314,812	1,297,865	43,617	55,299	40,802	3.2	4.0	3.0
Anoka	135,629	135,222	133,479	5,122	6,500	4,503	3.6	4.6	3.3
Carver	25,272	25,196	24,871	757	981	778	2.9	3.7	3.0
Dakota	148,527	148,081	146,173	4,701	5,933	4,307	3.1	3.9	2.9
Hennepin	623,986	622,115	614,096	20,282	26,104	18,571	3.1	4.0	2.9
Ramsey	279,038	278,201	274,615	8,974	11,472	8,749	3.1	4.0	3.1
Scott	29,879	29,790	29,406	1,149	1,176	1,314	3.7	3.8	4.3
Washington	76,436	76,207	75,225	2,632	3,133	2,580	3.3	3.9	3.3
Chisago	14,581	14,537	14,350	822	880	782	5.3	5.7	5.2
Isanti	12,346	12,309	12,151	585	675	563	4.5	5.2	4.4
Wright	33,769	33,668	33,234	1,594	1,697	1,342	4.5	4.8	3.9
St. Croix, WI	25,087	25,083	25,261	866	1,108	1,106	3.3	4.2	4.2
Bloomington	58,499	58,323	57,572	1,897	2,348	1,657	3.1	3.9	2.8
Minneapolis	205,778	205,161	202,517	7,141	9,693	6,862	3.4	4.5	3.3
St. Paul	143,872	143,440	141,592	5,552	7,042	5,307	3.7	4.7	3.6

Mpls.–St. Paul Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment, Hours & Earnings

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT 1/ (thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE FROM		PRODUCTION WORKERS' HOURS & EARNINGS 2/					
						Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Nov. 1989
Total Nonfarm Wage & Salary	1,395.0	1,396.1	1,378.8	-0.1	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Goods Producing	311.4	315.7	317.6	-1.4	-2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mining	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8	-18.7	766.82	693.98	46.0	44.6	16.67	15.56
Construction	52.9	55.7	54.5	-5.1	-2.8	719.26	658.15	38.9	37.1	18.49	17.74
Manufacturing	258.0	259.5	262.5	-0.6	-1.7	487.61	474.91	40.6	40.8	12.01	11.64
Durable Goods	154.0	155.2	160.1	-0.8	-3.8	494.10	486.45	40.6	41.4	12.17	11.75
Lumber and Furniture	9.1	9.2	8.9	-1.6	2.1	545.08	570.24	37.8	40.5	14.42	14.08
Stone, Clay and Glass	3.3	3.3	3.3	-0.2	-0.9	531.07	471.18	41.2	39.2	12.89	12.02
Primary Metals	4.5	4.6	4.6	-1.9	-2.8	504.70	409.73	43.1	38.8	11.71	10.56
Fabricated Metals	25.6	25.7	26.7	-0.4	-3.9	503.84	490.95	41.4	41.5	12.17	11.83
Industrial Machinery	54.9	55.5	60.2	-1.2	-8.9	522.10	526.49	40.1	42.7	13.02	12.33
Office and Computing	22.5	22.7	26.5	-0.9	-15.0	584.26	607.19	40.8	47.4	14.32	12.81
Electronic Equipment	18.0	18.1	17.7	-0.7	1.4	392.00	388.28	39.2	39.3	10.00	9.88
Transportation Equipment	5.6	5.6	5.6	-1.3	-1.2	608.73	626.76	39.4	40.1	15.45	15.63
Instruments and Related	29.3	29.3	29.4	-0.1	-0.3	474.53	458.80	43.1	42.6	11.01	10.77
Misc. Manufacturing	3.9	3.9	3.7	-0.2	4.1	473.02	462.95	36.9	39.4	12.16	11.75
Nondurable Goods	104.0	104.2	102.5	-0.2	1.5	478.27	459.60	40.6	40.0	11.78	11.49
Food & Beverage Products	17.0	17.4	17.1	-1.8	-0.3	509.95	498.10	43.4	43.2	11.75	11.53
Paper Products	25.9	25.9	25.7	0.1	0.7	525.85	480.40	41.9	39.9	12.55	12.04
Printing and Publishing	37.9	37.6	36.1	0.8	5.0	438.54	438.52	38.3	38.0	11.45	11.54
Chemicals and Petroleum	10.1	10.2	9.7	-0.7	4.0	625.83	577.53	43.4	40.5	14.42	14.26
Rubber and Plastic	11.2	11.3	11.4	-0.7	-1.8	405.27	398.26	39.5	41.1	10.26	9.69
Service Producing	1,083.6	1,080.5	1,061.2	0.3	2.1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transp., Comm., & Util.	78.3	78.7	76.4	-0.6	2.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transportation	56.7	57.1	54.4	-0.6	4.4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trucking & Warehousing	18.1	18.1	18.0	-0.1	0.4	413.11	392.39	31.9	30.8	12.95	12.74
Communication & Utilities	21.5	21.6	22.0	-0.4	-2.3	586.81	571.15	37.4	37.9	15.69	15.07
Trade	340.2	338.1	338.2	0.6	0.6	274.82	260.46	30.3	29.2	9.07	8.92
Wholesale	88.4	88.6	87.1	-0.3	1.6	463.88	448.54	37.2	37.1	12.47	12.09
Retail	251.8	249.4	251.1	0.9	0.3	216.58	203.14	28.2	26.8	7.68	7.58
Building Materials	10.3	10.5	10.9	-1.2	-4.8	390.89	413.02	36.6	38.6	10.68	10.70
General Merchandise	44.3	42.8	45.3	3.4	-2.3	203.58	193.47	26.0	25.9	7.83	7.47
Food Stores	30.4	29.8	29.4	1.9	3.2	265.39	255.20	29.1	29.3	9.12	8.71
Automotive	25.5	25.6	25.3	-0.5	0.6	348.13	328.84	36.8	35.9	9.46	9.16
Apparel	14.4	13.7	13.9	4.8	3.1	125.24	114.40	20.7	20.0	6.05	5.72
Home Furnishings	11.8	11.8	12.2	0.4	-3.0	333.84	270.56	32.1	28.6	10.40	9.46
Eating and Drinking	82.5	83.3	81.7	-0.9	1.0	140.80	127.80	25.6	22.5	5.50	5.68
Fin., Insur., Real Estate	95.1	95.1	93.4	-0.0	1.8						
Finance	40.5	40.4	40.0	0.2	1.3						
Insurance	37.8	37.7	36.9	0.2	2.5						
Real Estate	16.8	16.9	16.5	-0.9	1.7						
Services	377.2	378.6	367.5	-0.4	2.6						
Personal Services	18.4	18.5	18.3	-0.7	0.4						
Business Services	84.2	84.1	83.3	0.1	1.1						
Repair Services	17.5	17.6	17.2	-0.9	1.8						
Health Services	95.6	95.5	91.7	0.1	4.2						
Nursing Homes	23.2	23.2	22.6	0.0	2.4						
Hospitals	33.3	33.4	32.4	-0.1	3.1						
Legal Services	12.8	12.8	12.5	-0.2	2.5						
Private Education	17.1	17.1	17.5	-0.2	-2.7						
Government	192.9	190.0	185.8	1.5	3.8						
Federal	20.8	20.7	20.8	0.2	-0.2						
State	56.4	55.8	54.8	1.1	3.0						
Education	32.7	32.0	31.4	2.2	4.2						
Local	115.7	113.4	110.2	2.0	5.0						
Education	64.5	62.7	61.4	2.8	5.0						

Note: Not all industry sub-groups are shown for every major industry category.

1/ Totals may not add because of rounding.

2/ Average earnings data are on a "gross" basis and are derived from reports of payroll for full-time and part-time production or non-supervisory workers. The payroll is reported before deductions of any kind. Bonuses, retroactive pay, tips, payment in kind, and "fringe benefits" are excluded.

Central and Northwest Minnesota

LABOR FORCE DATA	Employment			Unemployment			Uemp. Rate		
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
St. Cloud	102,546	102,402	96,724	4,399	4,780	5,107	4.1	4.5	5.0
REGION 1	42,070	43,103	40,133	2,381	2,312	2,098	5.4	5.1	5.0
Kittson	2,384	2,426	2,254	155	120	140	6.1	4.7	5.8
Marshall	4,430	4,594	4,329	455	369	374	9.3	7.4	8.0
Norman	3,393	3,489	3,376	168	155	166	4.7	4.3	4.7
Pennington	7,035	6,955	6,669	407	374	286	5.5	5.1	4.1
Polk	14,206	14,926	13,610	725	826	734	4.9	5.2	5.1
Red Lake	1,481	1,524	1,365	159	159	152	9.7	9.4	10.0
Roseau	9,141	9,189	8,530	312	309	246	3.3	3.3	2.8
REGION 2	30,677	31,592	29,204	1,892	1,987	1,794	5.8	5.9	5.8
Beltrami	16,935	17,140	15,871	833	872	756	4.7	4.8	4.5
Clearwater	3,032	3,149	3,072	374	283	367	11.0	8.2	10.7
Hubbard	6,524	7,064	6,170	476	599	425	6.8	7.8	6.4
Lake of Woods	1,888	1,945	1,836	56	90	79	2.9	4.4	4.1
Mahnomen	2,298	2,294	2,255	153	143	167	6.2	5.9	6.9
REGION 4	98,130	98,943	93,334	4,318	3,961	4,191	4.2	3.8	4.2
Becker	13,465	13,697	12,990	780	803	683	5.5	5.5	5.0
Clay	26,309	26,195	25,318	814	685	668	3.0	2.5	2.6
Douglas	15,293	15,342	15,332	649	675	823	4.1	4.2	5.1
Grant	2,888	2,977	2,753	146	136	141	4.8	4.4	4.9
Otter Tail	25,015	25,435	23,983	1,317	1,143	1,237	5.0	4.3	4.9
Pope	4,630	4,628	4,450	244	226	229	5.0	4.7	4.9
Stevens	5,228	5,270	5,220	168	106	220	3.1	2.0	4.0
Traverse	2,015	2,120	1,950	83	85	81	4.0	3.9	4.0
Wilkin	3,287	3,279	3,338	117	102	109	3.4	3.0	3.2
REGION 5	58,317	59,528	56,155	4,466	4,272	4,446	7.1	6.7	7.1
Cass	8,033	8,516	7,634	762	722	714	8.7	7.8	8.6
Crow Wing	21,404	21,788	21,660	1,290	1,194	1,227	5.7	5.2	5.4
Morrison	13,572	13,771	13,879	1,391	1,192	1,376	9.3	8.0	9.0
Todd	10,670	10,790	10,174	660	811	822	5.8	7.0	7.5
Wadena	4,638	4,663	4,808	363	355	305	7.3	7.1	6.0
REGION 6E	54,396	55,518	52,909	2,435	2,354	2,204	4.3	4.1	4.0
Kandiyohi	20,500	20,333	19,659	762	690	700	3.6	3.3	3.4
McLeod	16,699	17,384	16,379	690	773	635	4.0	4.3	3.7
Meeker	8,693	8,808	8,296	610	547	476	6.6	5.8	5.4
Renville	8,504	8,993	8,575	372	344	393	4.2	3.7	4.4
REGION 7E	51,635	52,259	51,088	3,110	3,238	3,000	5.7	5.8	5.5
Chisago	14,581	14,537	14,350	822	880	782	5.3	5.7	5.2
Isanti	12,346	12,309	12,151	585	675	563	4.5	5.2	4.4
Kanabec	5,244	5,461	5,772	472	475	465	8.3	8.0	7.5
Mille Lacs	9,809	9,943	9,547	512	493	513	5.0	4.7	5.1
Pine	9,655	10,009	9,268	719	715	677	6.9	6.7	6.8
REGION 7W	136,315	136,071	129,958	5,992	6,477	6,449	4.2	4.5	4.7
Benton	16,173	16,150	15,254	804	881	911	4.7	5.2	5.6
Sherburne	19,875	19,648	18,747	1,173	1,246	1,239	5.6	5.9	6.2
Stearns	66,498	66,405	62,723	2,421	2,653	2,957	3.5	3.8	4.5
Wright	33,769	33,668	32,234	1,594	1,697	1,342	4.5	4.8	3.9

ST. CLOUD MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	Employment			% Change From	
Industry	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	83,137	82,975	79,501	0.2	4.6
Goods Producing	19,727	19,894	18,014	-0.8	9.5
Construction and Mining	4,636	4,640	4,413	-0.1	5.1
Manufacturing	15,091	15,254	13,601	-1.1	11.0
Durable Goods	8,751	8,889	7,324	-1.6	19.5
Nondurable Goods	6,340	6,365	6,277	-0.4	1.0
Service Producing	63,410	63,081	61,487	0.5	3.1
Transp., Comm., & Util.	3,818	3,859	3,905	-1.1	-2.2
Trade	26,372	26,217	24,867	0.6	6.1
Wholesale	3,957	4,005	3,663	-1.2	8.0
Retail	22,415	22,212	21,204	0.9	5.7
Finan., Insur., & Re. Estate	2,463	2,430	2,424	1.4	1.6
Services	16,830	16,823	16,301	0.4	3.5
Health	5,766	5,751	5,412	0.6	6.6
Other Services	11,102	11,072	10,889	0.3	2.0
Government	13,867	13,752	13,990	0.8	-0.9

November's Unemployment Rates Hover Near Those Of Last Year And October's

Unemployment rates rose in some regions and dropped in others over the month and year. In the St. Cloud MSA, the economy performed especially well with November's rate sinking to 4.1% from October's 4.5% and last November's 5.0%. Except for November 1988's 3.6%, the St. Cloud MSA's unemployment rate for this month has not been lower during the 1980s. During the past four months the MSA's unemployment rate had been higher in 1990 than during comparable months in 1989.

Employment across the regions, although generally dropping seasonally from October, was higher this November than last November. In the MSA's strong economy, employment rose over the month, from 102,402 in October and 96,724 from last November to 102,546 this November. That was 5,822 or 6.0% more MSA residents working this November than the year before.

Clearly, the area demonstrates that it can create jobs in the midst of outside recessionary pressures.

Nonfarm payroll jobs in the MSA rose to 83,137 from 82,975 in October and from 79,501 last November. Over the year, durable goods manufacturing performed exceptionally well, rising 19.5%. It caused goods-producing jobs to grow three times as fast as services-producing jobs--unheard of in most economies.

Spearheading the job increase among service producers over the year were trade--up 6.1%, and educational services--up 25.5%. The rise in education jobs mostly reflects an adjustment to correct for an underested level rather than a real increase in jobs. Never-the-less, nearly every major service industry in the St. Cloud MSA added jobs over the year.

Since October, the net number of MSA payroll jobs remained essentially unchanged. Among major industries, there was very little job fluctuation, with most changes being confined to one percent.

By Ron Daws

Northeast Minnesota

Region 3's Unemployment Rate Drops In November To Near Last November's Rate

Region 3's unemployment rate dropped from 5.6% in October to 5.2% in November. That was slightly below last November's 5.3%. Duluth's rate, in dropping from 4.8% in October to 3.9% in November, didn't quite reach the exceptionally low 3.3% it was last November. Still, except for last November's rate and November 1988's 3.6%, it was lower than any November unemployment rate of the 1980s. As such, there's no clear sign that the area is tumbling into recession--although it should be mentioned that over the past four months, Duluth's unemployment rates have modestly surpassed those of 1989.

Employment dropped slightly over the month in Region 3, by 308 or 0.2%, as approaching winter began to affect seasonal industries. Nevertheless, there were 5,592 or 4.1% more jobs this November than last November. Job creation was even stronger in Duluth with employment at 38,861 this November up from 38,293 last November (568 more jobs) and up from 38,662 in October (369 more jobs).

Nonfarm payroll jobs in Duluth also rose over the month and year. Trends varied among industries with construction down over the month and year, retail trade beginning to gear up for Christmas, health services continuing to grow during 1990, and government also continuing to rise. Manufacturing, although not growing dramatically, kept pace with the service producers who, in most economies, are generating jobs fastest.

By Ron Daws

LABOR FORCE DATA

	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
REGION 3	140,783	141,091	135,191	7,651	8,371	7,523	5.2	5.6	5.3
Aitkin	5,001	5,173	4,802	422	380	466	7.8	6.8	8.8
Carlton	12,735	12,768	11,667	684	837	649	5.1	6.2	5.3
Cook	2,418	2,754	2,355	148	154	141	5.8	5.3	5.6
Itasca	17,210	17,167	16,165	1,253	1,367	1,255	6.8	7.4	7.2
Koochiching	9,544	9,863	8,233	601	666	340	5.9	6.3	4.0
Lake	4,362	4,312	3,765	300	302	262	6.4	6.5	6.5
St. Louis	89,513	89,054	88,204	4,243	4,665	4,410	4.5	5.0	4.8
City of Duluth	38,861	38,662	38,293	1,571	1,967	1,290	3.9	4.8	3.3
Balance St. Louis	50,652	50,392	49,911	2,672	2,698	3,120	5.0	5.1	5.9

DULUTH & DULUTH-SUPERIOR MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	DULUTH Employment			DULUTH % Change From		DULUTH SUPERIOR Employment			DULUTH SUPERIOR % Change From	
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	50,566	50,132	49,989	0.9	1.2	97,328	96,920	97,326	0.4	0.0
Goods Producing	5,871	5,942	6,063	-1.2	-3.2	17,261	17,587	17,693	-1.9	-2.4
Mining	Small, combined with construction					5,553	5,593	5,137	-0.7	8.1
Construction	1,605	1,724	1,871	-6.9	-14.2	3,195	3,430	4,058	-6.9	-21.3
Manufacturing	4,266	4,218	4,192	1.1	1.8	8,513	8,564	8,498	-0.6	0.2
Durable Goods	1,783	1,777	1,712	0.3	4.1	4,523	4,582	4,400	-1.3	2.8
Nondurable Goods	2,483	2,441	2,480	1.7	0.1	3,990	3,982	4,098	0.2	-2.6
Service Producing	44,695	44,190	43,926	1.1	1.8	80,067	79,333	79,633	0.9	0.5
Transp., Comm., & Util.	3,309	3,317	3,288	-0.2	0.6	5,915	5,932	5,949	-0.3	-0.6
Trade	12,474	12,223	12,419	2.1	0.4	24,877	24,551	24,731	1.3	0.6
Wholesale	1,880	1,839	1,860	2.2	4.4	3,897	3,919	3,896	-0.6	0.0
Retail	10,594	10,384	10,619	2.0	-0.2	20,980	20,632	20,835	1.7	0.7
Finan., Insur., & Re. Estate	1,869	1,853	1,912	0.9	-2.2	3,218	3,263	3,243	-1.4	-0.8
Services	14,267	14,364	13,989	-0.7	2.0	24,131	24,058	23,800	0.3	1.4
Health	5,802	5,798	5,599	0.1	3.6	9,381	9,398	9,249	-0.2	1.4
Other Services	8,465	8,566	8,390	-1.2	0.9	14,750	14,660	14,551	0.6	1.4
Government	12,776	12,433	12,318	2.8	3.7	21,926	21,529	21,910	1.8	0.1

Southern Minnesota

LABOR FORCE DATA	Employment			Unemployment			Unemp. Rate		
	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989
REGION 6W	23,978	24,309	23,145	973	836	1,039	3.9	3.3	4.3
Big Stone	2,745	2,785	2,688	110	129	122	3.9	4.4	4.3
Chippewa	7,023	7,125	6,183	237	274	343	3.3	3.7	5.3
Lac Qui Parle	3,935	4,004	3,815	129	115	123	3.2	2.8	3.1
Swift	4,569	4,616	4,789	212	171	230	4.4	3.6	4.6
Yellow Medicine	5,706	5,779	5,670	285	147	221	4.8	2.5	3.8
REGION 8	61,325	61,820	59,163	2,407	2,152	2,088	3.8	3.4	3.4
Cottonwood	6,092	6,236	6,038	290	354	189	4.5	5.5	3.0
Jackson	5,512	5,584	5,263	221	228	176	3.9	3.9	3.2
Lincoln	3,141	3,212	3,061	218	115	139	6.5	3.5	4.3
Lyon	12,747	12,744	11,527	469	369	463	3.5	2.8	3.9
Murray	4,608	4,644	4,674	187	150	185	3.9	3.1	3.8
Nobles	12,143	12,179	11,396	348	374	341	2.8	3.0	2.9
Pipestone	4,882	4,891	5,174	216	237	239	4.2	4.6	4.4
Redwood	7,465	7,503	7,514	240	223	235	3.1	2.9	3.0
Rock	4,735	4,827	4,516	218	92	121	4.4	1.9	2.6
REGION 9	111,746	112,389	108,007	4,244	3,998	3,852	3.7	3.4	3.4
Blue Earth	29,266	28,925	28,538	946	674	798	3.1	2.3	2.7
Brown	14,151	14,115	13,394	532	427	563	3.6	2.9	4.0
Faribault	7,409	7,641	7,276	334	366	254	4.3	4.6	3.4
LeSueur	10,498	11,159	10,166	619	657	561	5.6	5.6	5.2
Martin	11,808	12,033	11,219	520	500	436	4.2	4.0	3.7
Nicollet	15,976	15,790	15,579	504	402	479	3.1	2.5	3.0
Sibley	6,590	6,708	6,620	309	318	289	4.5	4.5	4.2
Waseca	9,964	9,840	9,221	294	426	281	2.9	4.1	3.0
Watonwan	6,084	6,178	5,994	186	228	191	3.0	3.6	3.1
REGION 10	225,699	225,732	220,972	8,405	9,073	6,787	3.6	3.9	3.0
Dodge	8,176	8,216	8,060	374	431	325	4.4	5.0	3.9
Fillmore	9,580	9,728	9,578	341	346	401	3.4	3.4	4.0
Freeborn	15,357	15,348	16,657	1,303	1,665	633	7.8	9.9	3.7
Goodhue	21,549	21,659	20,730	815	876	643	3.6	3.9	3.0
Houston	9,829	9,854	9,396	337	207	274	3.3	2.1	2.8
Mower	18,286	18,364	16,340	614	659	497	3.2	3.5	3.0
Olmsted	63,880	63,190	62,484	1,804	1,775	1,619	2.7	2.7	2.5
Rice	28,218	28,187	26,856	857	1,028	906	2.9	3.5	3.3
Steele	16,277	16,302	15,774	617	592	401	3.7	3.5	2.5
Wabasha	8,164	8,297	8,853	417	422	313	4.9	4.8	3.4
Winona	26,383	26,587	26,234	946	1,052	771	3.5	3.8	2.9
Rochester City	39,743	39,314	38,874	1,306	1,283	1,154	3.2	3.2	2.9

ROCHESTER MSA NONFARM WAGE & SALARY EMPLOYMENT	Employment			% Change From	
Industry	Nov. 1990	Oct. 1990	Nov. 1989	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total Nonfarm Wage and Salary	65,785	65,191	64,821	0.9	1.5
Goods Producing	14,297	14,334	14,487	-0.3	-1.3
Construction and Mining	2,398	2,435	2,432	-1.5	-1.4
Manufacturing	11,899	11,899	12,055	0.0	-1.3
Durable Goods	9,911	9,861	10,081	0.5	-1.7
Nondurable Goods	1,988	2,038	1,974	-2.5	0.7
Service Producing	51,488	50,857	50,334	1.2	2.3
Transp., Comm., & Util.	1,875	1,885	1,900	-0.5	-1.3
Trade	13,105	12,827	12,818	2.2	2.2
Wholesale	1,410	1,391	1,362	1.4	3.5
Retail	11,695	11,436	11,456	2.3	2.1
Finan., Insur., & Re. Estate	1,698	1,682	1,619	1.0	4.9
Services	28,140	28,022	27,447	0.4	2.5
Health	18,577	18,542	18,404	0.2	0.9
Other Services	9,563	9,480	9,043	0.9	5.8
Government	6,670	6,441	6,550	3.6	1.8

Southern Minnesota's November Unemployment Rates Generally Were Slightly Higher Than Last November's

Unemployment rates generally rose over the month and year, but the changes were inconsistent and modest. Region 6's rate, for example, dropped over the year, and Region 10's dropped over the month. The Rochester MSA's unemployment rate remained unchanged from October's 2.7%. That was near last November's 2.5%.

Employment, for the most part, dropped over the month in Southern Minnesota, but remained above year-ago levels. The Rochester MSA performed especially well with employment rising from 62,484 last November, and 63,190 in October, to 63,880 this November.

Nonfarm payroll jobs in the Rochester MSA continued to rise, reaching a new level for November at 65,785. That was up from 65,191 in October, and up from 64,821 jobs last November (a 1.5% increase over the year).

Over the year, the strong job gainers in the MSA were nonmedical services--up 5.8%, finance/insurance/real estate--up 4.9% and wholesale trade--up 3.5%. Over-the-year job losses in the major industry sectors were all within two percent.

Job level changes since October were small. Local education, the only possible exception, contributed strongly to the 3.6% rise in government jobs.

All of the above statistics support the general feeling that the area is resisting whatever recessionary pressures may be affecting the country. The area's well-educated work force, diversity of prospering industries, and healthy agricultural base seem to be the underlying reasons.

By Ron Daws

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Selected Minnesota Program Statistics

Distribution of Insured Unemployed by Industry and Occupation, Nov. 1990

Industry Attachment	Number	Percent of Total	Percent*/ Long-Term Unemployed	Women as Percent of total
TOTAL, ALL INDUSTRIES	33,199	100.0	22.3	32.3
Ag., For., Fish.	763	2.3	4.2	15.3
Mining	302	0.9	9.1	10.1
Construction	6,885	20.7	7.0	4.8
Manufacturing	8,526	25.7	24.8	32.6
Public Utilities	1,441	4.3	25.0	26.8
Wholesale Trade	2,351	7.1	31.1	31.3
Retail Trade	3,637	11.0	29.9	46.1
Fin., Ins., Re. Est.	1,324	4.0	35.8	58.8
Services	5,826	17.5	28.6	53.2
Public Admin.	1,149	3.5	15.1	38.4
Info. Not Available	995	3.0	25.0	37.7
Occupational Attachment				
TOTAL, ALL OCCUPATIONS	33,199	100.0	22.3	32.3
Prof., Tech., Mgr.	6,788	20.4	34.9	39.5
Clerical	4,003	12.1	33.2	79.8
Sales	1,671	5.0	29.8	34.3
Services	2,112	6.4	21.2	59.8
Farm, For., Fish.	829	2.5	2.8	17.0
Processing	908	2.7	23.6	26.6
Machine Trades	2,131	6.4	19.2	12.7
Benchwork	2,706	8.2	18.0	51.7
Structural Work	7,739	23.3	8.2	3.5
Misc., & INA	4,312	13.0	22.9	15.2

Distribution of Insured Unemployed by Age and Sex, Nov. 1990

Age Groups	Number	Percent Distribution		
		Men of Totals	Men of Men	Women of Women
TOTALS	33,199	67.8	100.0	100.0
Under 45	24,479	68.6	74.6	71.9
Under 25	4,069	70.9	12.8	11.1
25-34	11,671	69.5	36.0	33.4
35-44	8,739	66.4	25.8	27.5
45 and over	8,720	65.6	25.4	28.1
45-54	5,320	65.5	15.5	17.2
55 and over	3,400	65.7	9.9	10.9

Experienced Supply/Job Openings Demand**/

Occupational Attachment	Applicants (Supply) Nov. 1990	Job Openings (Demand) Nov. 1990	Supply/Demand Ratio	
			Cur. 1990	Cur. 1989
TOTAL, ALL OCCUPATIONS	50,183	20,821	2.4	2.7
Prof., Tech., Mgr.	14,060	1,891	7.4	5.3
Clerical	9,115	3,060	3.0	3.2
Sales	3,537	2,793	1.3	1.3
Services	4,858	5,412	0.9	0.9
Farm, For., Fish.	693	451	1.5	1.2
Processing	1,013	1,843	0.6	1.1
Machine Trades	3,201	733	4.4	4.8
Benchwork	2,712	1,020	2.7	3.9
Structural Work	5,359	1,338	4.0	7.7
Misc., & INA	5,912	2,280	2.6	3.8

*/ Long-term unemployed refers to unemployment insurance claimants whose current spell of unemployment has lasted 15 weeks or longer.

**/ Available supply/demand at the end of the month, not applicants and openings available during the month.